





## LIST OF NEWSPAPERS.

No.	Names of Newspapers.	Places of publication.	Reported number of subscribers.	Dates of papers received and examined for the week.	REMARKS.
BENGALI.		CALCUTTA.			
Monthly.					
1	"Alo" ...	Calcutta ...	.....		
2	"Prachar" ...	Bhowanipur ...	.....		
Fortnightly.					
1	"Suhrit" ...	Ditto ...	.....	28th March 1900.	
Weekly.					
1	"Anusandhan" ...	Calcutta ...	.....	27th March 1900.	
2	"Bangabhum" ...	Ditto ...	.....	31st March and 7th April 1900.	
3	"Bangavasi" ...	Ditto ...	25,000	29th March 1900.	
4	"Basumati" ...	Ditto ...	15,000	30th ditto.	
5	"Hitavadi" ...	Ditto ...	About 6,000	9th and 30th March and 6th April, 1900.	
6	"Mihir-o-Sudhakar" ...	Ditto ...	2,500	29th March, 1900.	
7	"Nava Yug" ...	Ditto ...	.....	2nd April, 1900.	
8	"Prativasi" ...	Ditto ...	3,600	.....	
9	"Samay" ...	Ditto ...	3,000	.....	
10	"Samiran" ...	Ditto ...	.....	29th March 1900.	
11	"Sanjivani" ...	Ditto ...	3,000	1st April 1900.	
12	"Sign Board" ...	Ditto ...	.....	2nd ditto.	
13	"Som Prakash" ...	Ditto ...	1,000	28th March 1900.	
14	"Sri Sri Vishnu Priya-o-Ananda Bazar Patrika."	Ditto ...	.....	.....	
15	"Viswadut" ...	Ditto ...	.....	.....	
Daily.					
1	"Dainik Chandrika" ...	Calcutta ...	.....	2nd to 6th April 1900.	
2	"Dainik Samachar" ...	Ditto ...	.....	1st to 5th ditto.	
3	"Samvad Prabhakar" ...	Ditto ...	2,000	3rd to 5th and 7th ditto.	
4	"Samvad Purnachandrodaya" ...	Ditto ...	300	3rd to 7th ditto.	
HINDI.					
Weekly.					
1	"Bharat Mitra" ...	Calcutta ...	2,000	2nd April 1900.	
2	"Hindi Bangavasi" ...	Ditto ...	10,000	2nd ditto.	
PERSIAN.					
Weekly.					
1	"Hablul Mateen" ...	Calcutta ...	800	2nd April 1900.	
URDU.					
Weekly.					
1	"Nasrat-ul-Islam" ...	Calcutta ...	.....	16th, 23rd and 30th March, 1900.	
BENGALI.		BURDWAN DIVISION.			
Fortnightly.					
1	"Ulubaria Darpan" ...	Ulubaria ...	.....		
Weekly.					
1	"Bangabandhu" ...	Chandernagore ...	.....	24th March 1900.	
2	"Bankura Darpan" ...	Bankura ...	600	1st April 1900.	
3	"Burdwan Sanjivani" ...	Burdwan ...	235	27th March 1900.	
4	"Chinsura Vartavaha" ...	Chinsura ...	510	.....	
5	"Education Gazette" ...	Hooghly ...	1,350	6th April, 1900.	
6	"Medini Bandhav" ...	Midnapore ...	.....	28th March 1900.	
7	"Pallivasi" ...	Kalna ...	.....	28th ditto.	
BENGALI.		PRESIDENCY DIVISION.			
Monthly.					
1	"Sevika" ...	Diamond Harbour ...	.....		
Fortnightly.					
1	"Hitakari" ...	Kushtia ...	.....	23th March 1900	
Weekly.					
1	"Basirhat Suhrid" ...	Basirhat ...	.....	31st March 1900.	
2	"Khulna" ...	Khulna ...	.....	29th ditto.	
3	"Murshidabad Hitaishi" ...	Berhampore, Murshidabad.	500	28th March and 4th April, 1900.	
4	"Pratihar" ...	Ditto ...	603	6th April, 1900.	



## LIST OF NEWSPAPERS—concluded.

No.	Name of Newspapers.	Places of publication.	Reported number of subscription.	Dates of papers received and examined. for the week	REMARKS.
	URIYA. <i>Weekly.</i>	ORISSA DIVISION.			
1	"Sambalpur Hitaishini" ...	Bamra, Central Provinces.	500	14th March 1900.	
2	"Samvad Vahika" ...	Balasore ...	150	15th ditto.	
3	"Uriya and Navasamvad" ...	Ditto ...	378	14th ditto.	
4	"Utkal Dipika" ...	Cuttack ...	400	17th ditto.	
	HINDI. <i>Monthly.</i>	PATNA DIVISION.			
1	"Bihar Bandhu" ...	Bankipore ...	About 600	20th March 1900.	
	URDU. <i>Weekly.</i>				
1	"Al Punch" ...	Bankipore ...	500	16th and 23rd March 1900.	
	BENGALI. <i>Weekly.</i>	CHOTA NAGPUR DIVISION.			
1	"Manbhum" ...	Purulia ...	.....	3rd April 1900.	
	BENGALI. <i>Fortnightly.</i>	RAJSHAHI DIVISION.			
1	"Rangpur Vartavaha" ...	Rangpur ...	.....	28th March 1900.	
	<i>Weekly.</i>				
1	"Hindu Ranjika" ...	Boalia, Rajshahi ...	300	4th April 1900.	
2	"Kangal" ...	Cooch Behar ...	300	4th ditto.	
3	"Rangpur Dik Prakash" ...	Kakina, Rangpur ...	.....	29th March 1900.	
	HINDI. <i>Monthly.</i>				
1	"Darjeeling Mission ke Masik Samachar Patrika."	Darjeeling ...	.....		
	BENGALI. <i>Fortnightly.</i>	DACCA DIVISION.			
1	"Faridpur Hitaishini" ...	Faridpur ...	750		
2	"Kasipur Nivasi" ...	Kasipur, Barisal ...	300		
3	"Sikshak Suhrid" ...	Dacca ...	.....		
	<i>Weekly.</i>				
1	"Barisal Hitaishi" ...	Barisal ...	400		
2	"Charu Mihir" ...	Mymensingh ...	1,011	27th March 1900.	
3	"Dacca Prakash" ...	Dacca ...	2,400	1st April 1900.	
4	"Sanjay" ...	Faridpur ...	.....		
5	"Saraswat Patra" ...	Dacca ...	500	7th April 1900.	
	ENGLISH AND BENGALI. <i>Weekly.</i>				
1	"Dacca Gazette" ...	Dacca ...	500	2nd April 1900.	
	BENGALI. <i>Weekly.</i>	CHITTAGONG DIVISION.			
1	"Sansodhini" ...	Chittagong ...	120		
2	"Tripura Hitaishi" ...	Comilla ...	550	2nd April 1900.	
	BENGALI. <i>Fortnightly.</i>	ASSAM.			
1	"Paridarsak" ...	Sylhet ...	.....		







## I.—FOREIGN POLITICS.

1. The *Mihir-o-Sudhakar* [Calcutta] of the 9th March writes that the Indian people, especially the Musalmans, are celebrating the British victories in the Transvaal War. The Musalmans are praying to God that the war may soon end, and the British may soon return home victorious. MIHIR-O-SUDHAKAR,  
Mar. 9th, 1900.

2. The *Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 30th March has the following:—  
Indians are distinguishing themselves as stretcher-bearers and *bhistis* (water-carriers) in the battle-field in South Africa. Indians are gladly sacrificing their lives and, under the hottest fire, are carrying wounded soldiers to places of safety. But still they are called cowards, and will not be allowed to enter the army when they return home. The *Natal Witness* writes that these brave Indian bearers are carrying fully-equipped wounded soldiers ten miles a day, a feat which reflects great credit on them. But can the *Natal Witness* assure us that notwithstanding this unparalleled bravery and faithful service, these Indian bearers will not be treated as cats and dogs in Natal? In a Boer country like the Transvaal Indians may be called coolies, and treated as cattle, but will any one tell us why they should not be treated better in Natal, an English colony? Why in Natal alone, is not an Indian despised in Australia also? HITAVADI,  
Mar. 30th, 1900.

3. The same paper has the following:—  
There should be forgiveness in victory. England is now the winning party in the Boer War, but fighting is still going on. The Boers will certainly be vanquished in the long run, but they will not yield without sorely tormenting us. Valuable British lives are still being laid down in the battle-field, and the Boers are still fighting with indomitable courage and bravery. It is now tacitly understood all over the world that the Boers will not die without teaching us a lesson at every step. What should be done at the present moment is now the question for consideration. Is it desirable to waste money and energy in order to conquer and occupy the two Boer countries, or is it desirable to forgive the Boers, and conclude a peace with them after making them pay adequate compensation? It is this question which is now agitating the mind of all thoughtful Englishmen. HITAVADI.

We are now having an unbroken series of victories; the current is now on our side. When the current was against us, when British Generals, with insufficient troops, were being defeated at every turn, every British subject had to justify even this unjust war for the sake of British prestige and reputation. But now that the tide has turned and the British army is being crowned with victory, our prestige will be enhanced if we forgive the enemy and conclude peace with them. This is why many like us wish to see the war at an end, and think it no longer necessary to waste money and energy in order to prosecute the war. It is now desirable to put an end to the war. What is now required on the part of England is self-control. What will England gain by annexing the Transvaal and the Orange Free State?

England has surprised the world by turning the tide of war by the sheer force of numbers. England suffered unprecedentedly tremendous loss and defeat in the beginning of the war. The British soldier had become fond of luxury and comfort, and lost the power of endurance. The least inconvenience, the least difficulty made him lose his equanimity and self-control. The evils of luxury and self-indulgence manifested themselves in the British reverse on the Tugela. The undue indulgence which the British soldier enjoys now-a-days cannot but make him luxurious and worthless. The authorities, who had taught him luxury and self-indulgence, satisfied themselves with praising his bravery and heroism. Thanks to Lord Roberts' wonderful tactics, and thanks to the overwhelmingly large number of troops that have been poured into South Africa, and the unlimited treasure that has been spent, British prestige has been maintained. We have conquered the enemy not by heroism but by numbers.

We shall have to suffer much more loss if we are resolved to occupy the Transvaal. We shall have to sacrifice more lives and waste more money.



Our victories have maintained our prestige, let forgiveness enhance that prestige. The best thing to do now is to conclude peace with the enemy and reform our army.

England did not lose her patience in her defeats, and has at last become victorious. Is this not enough? Cronje is a prisoner, confined in St. Helena. The Boer army has been defeated. England has shown patience and perseverance in danger. Why should she not show forgiveness in victory? It will not enhance British prestige to strike the fallen enemy in revengeful temper. It will be much more desirable to increase our strength instead of wasting it with the object of depriving two Republics of their independence.

BANGAVASI,  
Mar. 31st, 1900.

4. The *Bangavasi* [Calcutta] of the 31st March has the following:—

The present state of the Boer War. There is now very little fighting going on in the seat of war, and of the little fighting that still exists it is not possible to say anything. It is not always safe to attach any credence to telegrams; one telegram often contradicting another. It seems that we are not receiving correct information from the seat of war. There seems to be something behind the scenes; some screw evidently loose somewhere. The irresistible force with which Lord Roberts advanced on Bloemfontein no longer seems to exist. He is still sitting idle at Bloemfontein, and it is conjectured that he will have to remain inactive for three weeks more. He will have to bring the Boers near Bloemfontein completely under his subjection before he advances on the Transvaal. All the great English generals are gradually joining the Commander-in-Chief at Bloemfontein. Lord Kitchener, the conqueror of the Soudan, has returned to Bloemfontein from Cape Colony. General French, with his cavalry forces, has also joined Lord Roberts. Only two days ago a telegram announced that General French had been fighting with the Boers, but he says that he had had no fighting, having only to bring a few Boer farmers under subjection. Telegrams thus appear to be misleading.

It was at first given out that the Boers who had been surrendering to Lord Roberts were all showing their loyalty to the British. It is now said, however, that Lord Roberts has failed to ascertain whether these Boers are truly loyal or not and that their sincerity is now doubted. Like the Afridis the Boer farmers are only surrendering the useless and worthless guns to the British, and are maintaining a sullen attitude. Lately, some British officers had been out on an excursion when they met a party of Boer horsemen. These Boers fired on the British officers, and killed one and wounded two. This took place in the vicinity of Bloemfontein. Now, if the Boers have surrendered and are now peacefully disposed, why did they fire on British officers? There seems to be a mystery at the bottom of all this.

HABLUL MATEEN,  
April 2nd, 1900.

5. The *Hablul Mateen* [Calcutta] of the 2nd April says that money can without doubt achieve anything and everything.

The Afridis won over with money. It may even turn an inveterate foe into a friend. Money has made the Afridis, once hostile to the English, so loyal to them that they requested the Government to send them to South Africa to take part in the warfare there. They are ready to gladly accept military service under the British Government. The British Government is very glad that people who were once its inveterate enemies are now willing to sacrifice their lives for it. The Government of India intends to soon form some Afridi regiments.

HABLUL MATEEN.

6. The same paper says that Russia, jealous of the railway concessions

which Germany has obtained from Turkey, has applied to the Sultan for similar concessions. She has also demanded that Russia and Russia alone should be allowed to construct a railway in the tract of country lying between Turkey in Asia and Asiatic Russia. The Russian Ambassador at Constantinople has also requested the Sultan to pardon the Armenian refugees in Russia and elsewhere, and to allow them to return home.

HABLUL MATEEN.

7. In the opinion of the same paper war is imminent between Bulgaria and Servia. The Sultan is sending troops equipped

War imminent between Servia and Bulgaria.

with arms and ammunition to Macedonia to preserve the peace there should war break out. If war is declared between these two countries, the Sultan will most probably sympathise with Bulgaria. Some time ago the King of Bulgaria, through his Minister, sent his crown to the Sultan as a token of his submission to the



Turkish suzerainty. The Sultan in his turn returned the same with thanks, and said that friendly relations between Turkey and Bulgaria would be re-established. If a war breaks out between Bulgaria and Servia peace in Europe will, for some time, be disturbed, unless the Czar's peace policy prevents the two countries from fighting each other.

8. The same paper says that it appears from the telegram which Lord Salisbury sent to Kruger that the English, proud of their victories, are not for amicably settling the

The Boer War.

war. The Boers are not inclined to give up their independence, while the English say that they should avail themselves of the fruits of their victories. It appears that the loss in money and life on the side of the English is by far greater than that on the side of the Boers. The gold mines of the Transvaal have been destroyed. It seems that if the Transvaal is conquered, the English will not find any gold in the gold mines of that country.

9. The same paper says that when England went the length of interfering with the rights and privileges and the independence of the Boers, the Boers opposed

Kruger and the Boer War.

such interference. President Kruger with his sagacity and far-sightedness discovered the movements of his enemies, and came to understand that they intended to deprive the Boers of their independence by delaying the final decision of the dispute which arose between them. Kruger, therefore, called a meeting of his deputies, and explained to them the secret motive underlying the movements of the English Government. The Boers assured Kruger that they were ready to fight to the last man for the national prestige rather than submit to disgrace. Kruger then made all necessary arrangements for the war, personally supervising everything, and sent an ultimatum to England to the effect that if she did not comply with the conditions stated in the ultimatum within the specified time, he would be compelled to take up arms against her. After the expiry of the stated time he ordered his troops to be in readiness. The Boers, without hesitation, besieged Ladysmith, Kimberley and some other places. They surrounded General White with his twelve thousand troops in Ladysmith. It is worth noticing that sixty thousand Boers were enough to besiege so many places. At Ladysmith, a strong military position, they baffled the skill of General Buller, who came to rescue it with twenty-five thousand of the best English troops. One Boer tactician, with his skill and genius, was enough to bring such a small nation to such a lofty position. It will not, therefore, be out of place to repeat what Prince Bismarck said of Kruger. He said that he himself was one of the best diplomatists, but there was one superior to him in respect of sagacity, tactics and diplomacy. After that one, if there was any statesman better than he, it was President Kruger of the Transvaal Republic. Kruger did not possess his powers, but his genius was baffled by Kruger's genius. It can be easily understood from this that the Boers, few though they are, will not be easily defeated even by the overwhelming power of the English. In fact, when the Boers are in self-defence, God can grant them success. It is not within our scope to deal with the successes or defeats of the Boers, but we want to know what thing it is that has made the Boers so strong and steady. That thing is patriotism and faith in God.

10. The same paper says that according to the English press a new treaty is expected between Turkey and Germany with respect to affairs in Turkey-in-Asia. This treaty is, in substance, said to resemble that made between

A secret treaty between Germany and Turkey.

England and Turkey in 1868, whereby the former undertook to defend the Sultan's possessions in Turkey-in-Asia. Under the present treaty Germany will have to oppose Russia if she invade any part of the Turkish Empire. Germany will also have to collect customs duty in all ports in Turkey-in-Asia. But the collection of the land revenue and other taxes will be entrusted to those Germans who have adopted Turkey as their home. This treaty will make Germany very strong in Turkey-in-Asia. Although nothing is formally known about the new treaty, yet from certain circumstances it may be understood that such a treaty has been actually concluded. The English press says that such a treaty will do no harm to England, because she has cut off her connection long ago with Turkey-in-Asia.

HABLUL MATHEEN,  
April 2nd, 1900.

HABLUL MATHEEN.

HABLUL MATHEEN.



HABLUL MATEEN,  
April 2nd, 1900.

11. The same paper, hearing that the Amir intends to translate European works on the arts and sciences into Persian, observes that after the Abbaside Caliphs, it is the Amir who will undertake that sacred task—a task which will remove the veil of ignorance from the face of Islam, and will free Musalmans from their dependence on Europe for every article of common use. The Musalmans removed darkness from the face of world by the light of knowledge, but they are now sunk in the depths of ignorance. It is knowledge which can make us prosperous. It ought to be borne in mind that the best way to promulgate a knowledge of the arts and sciences among a nation is to give their children that knowledge in their mother tongue. In fact, the Amir's work will benefit not only the Afghans but Musalmans at large. Some Western books on arts, sciences and literature have been translated into Persian. The Amir, therefore, ought to translate such books as have not already been translated, so that his work may be less expensive and at the same time beneficial to both Persia and Afghanistan. Some other books on the above subjects have also been translated into Arabic and Turkish in Turkey. The Amir, therefore, ought to translate those books into Persian from Arabic and Turkish.

HABLUL MATEEN.

12. The same paper writes as follows:—The Russian papers, says the *Standard*, are jubilant over the commercial concessions which Russia has obtained in Persia. The *Novo Vremya* says that England is peacefully carrying on trade in the southern part of Persia, and in order to facilitate its trade, England has laid a telegraphic line from Quetta to Khorasan. From the commercial report lately published in Persia, it appears that Germany is trying her best to open trade connections with Northern Persia. Another Russian paper says that Russia ought by force to spread her commerce in Bagdad, Khodahar, Herat, Beluchistan and the Persian Gulf. If Russia does that, she is sure to get the assistance of Germany, because in this question the interests of Russia and Germany are identical.

HABLUL MATEEN.

13. A correspondent writing in the same paper says that now-a-days the leaders of the Musalman community have become so indolent that they do not like to do anything which is not likely to promote their own selfish interests. They are no longer inclined to do good to their community. If they ever take upon themselves to do this, they foolishly imitate the European system. Such imitation has almost become an incurable disease among Musalmans. Turkey is trying her best to encourage manufacture, but she is still unable to carry out her intention. She opened a paper mill, but could not compete with Europeans. Again, she manufactured excellent candles, but European manufacturers reduced the price of their candles. Turkey therefore could not compete with them.

## II.—HOME ADMINISTRATION.

### (a)—Police.

HITAKARI,  
Mar. 28th, 1900.

14. The *Hitakari* [Kusthia] of the 28th March says that a tiger is making ravages in the village Amlabari, in the Nadia district. On the 24th March last, a child of three or four years was severely mauled by a tiger in a betel plantation. Some time ago another man was mauled by a tiger in the village Hogla, in the same district. The villagers will not be able to live in safety until the tiger is killed. The villages Amlabari, Goalgram, Kachari and Jagannathpur are surrounded by jungle, which must be cleared if the villagers are to be saved from the ravages of tigers. The chaukidars cannot keep watch in the village for fear of the tiger, and more thefts have therefore recently taken place. We therefore request the authorities to make arrangements for clearing the jungle as soon as possible.

MURSHIDABAD  
HITAISHI,  
Mar. 28th, 1900.

15. The *Murshidabad Hitaishi* [Murshidabad] of the 28th March writes that tigers are committing ravages in the village Bundaipara, in the Murshidabad district. The attention of the Magistrate and the District Superintendent is drawn to this.



16. The *Rangpur Dikprakash* [Rangpur] of the 29th March complains that the road which runs from Abalia to the Rangpur railway station *via* Gangachar, in the Rangpur district, is infested with *badmashes*. The attention of the police authorities is drawn to this.

RANGPUR DIK-  
PRAKASH,  
Mar. 29th, 1900.

17. The *Nava Yug* [Calcutta] of the 29th March has the following:—  
The practice of using false weights has long been in vogue in the Calcutta bazars. We wrote a letter to the Commissioner of Police on the subject, but we regret to say that he has not as yet taken any action in the matter. We draw the attention of the Government to this.

NAVA YUG,  
Mar. 29th, 1900.

18. Babu Sripatilal Basu writes as follows, in the *Khulna* [Khulna] of the 29th March from Katipara, in the Khulna district:—  
Up-country swindlers in Khulna.

KHULNA,  
Mar. 29th, 1900.

Thirty or forty up-country men, in three or four boats, often come to the riverside villages of the Khulna district with the ostensible object of buying paddy from the villagers, and of selling the articles which they bring with them. Some of them give themselves out as paddy-dealers, and go to a village to buy paddy, and consent to pay the price asked by the villagers for their paddy, and begin to measure the piles. They generally carry with them sacks 15 or 16 cubits long and 2 cubits wide, and fill them with paddy. When one pile is finished they quarrel with the villagers, on frivolous grounds, empty their sacks, and repair to their boats. But when the piles are again measured, they are found to have considerably diminished. In this way they defrauded Kartik Sardar of village Balabere, within the jurisdiction of the Asasuni police-station, in March last. The poor villagers of Haribhanga, Madhukhali and other villages were also robbed by them in a similar manner, and escaped undetected.

19. The *Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 30th March complains that Babu Krishna Chandra Banerji, Inspector of the Muchipara thana, lately prosecuted a *sankirtan* party on the ground that they had been chanting *sankirtan* without a pass. The Police Magistrate let off the accused with a warning. The residents of Ward No. IX applied to, and obtained a pass from, the Police Commissioner for *sankirtan* in their ward. Krishna Babu wrote to the Police Commissioner, objecting to the pass on the ground that there was a house of the Christian Missionaries in Mirzapore Street, and they might object to the *sankirtan*. The Police Commissioner withdrew the pass, and told the applicants that the pass would be renewed if they could produce a written permission of the Missionaries. Now, there is only one Christian house in the whole ward and the Police Commissioner considered it his duty to consult the feelings of the inmates of this single house in preference to the feelings of the Hindu residents of the ward. If there is a Hindu family in a Christian ward, will the Police Commissioner consult the feelings of the Hindu family in preference to the feelings of the Christian residents? In the present case, however, the Christian Missionaries readily granted their permission, and the pass was renewed.

HITAVADI,  
Mar. 30th, 1900.

20. A correspondent writes as follows in the *Mihir-o-Sudhakar* [Calcutta] of the 30th March:—

MIHIR-O-SUDHAKAR,  
Mar. 30th, 1900.

A licentious zamindar of North-Bengal.

A Raja of North Bengal is in the habit of amusing himself in the company of the wives of his raiyats. Every evening more than a hundred women of the village repair to the Raja's palace with their beddings, after finishing their toilet. The conduct of the Raja has displeased the village people, but there seems to be no remedy for his vicious indulgence. Most of the women, who have been corrupted by the Raja, are Musalmans, and the temptation of money and ornaments has proved too much for them and their guardians. To tell the truth, the husbands and fathers of these women are encouraging them to gratify the Raja's lust. Corruption has entered the Raja's family, and while he passes the entire night in the company of these women, one of his wives carries on an intrigue with one of his servants. The Raja's son also is extravagant, and is wasting money. The estate has incurred a debt of about five or six lakhs of rupees.



## (b)—Working of the Courts.

SRI SRI VISHNU  
PRIYA-O-  
ANANDA BAZAR  
PATRIKA,  
Mar. 28th, 1900.

21. The *Sri Sri Vishnupriya-o-Ananda Bazar Patrika* [Calcutta] of the 28th March has the following, with reference to the case of Yudhisthir Mag.:

Yudhisthir is a Burmese, and the decision of the Magistrate of Silchar is more like a decision passed by the proverbial Burmese Court than like a decision passed by a British Court of Justice. Such a decision was never before heard of. The Magistrate's judgment is, so to say, nothing more than the complainant's statement with a few verbal alterations, and we might almost say that the complainant had mesmerised the Magistrate, and had exercised a very great influence upon his mind before he passed his decision in the case. The accused Yudhisthir was sentenced to two years' rigorous imprisonment, but he was not given an opportunity to defend himself. The decision has been passed simply on the strength of the complainant's statement.

It appears from the complainant's statement that Yudhisthir, when he was dismissed, had not the wherewithal to pay his passage to Calcutta. He therefore went to the complainant again and again for passage money. He humbly asked the complainant to forgive him, and even threw himself at his feet. This perhaps enraged the complainant, and it is quite probable that he assaulted Yudhisthir, and Yudhisthir bit the complainant's finger in order to effect an easy escape. It cannot be believed that a native could be so bold as to trespass into the house of a European, pick a quarrel with him, and assault him without the least provocation. It was true that Yudhisthir was dismissed, but dismissal cannot be a sufficient motive for assaulting a man. Moreover, Yudhisthir is a helpless native, and it is very unlikely that he should have ventured to beard the lion in his den, to assault a European in his own house, where he had his servants to help him. But the Magistrate implicitly believed the complainant's statement, and on its strength sentenced the accused to rigorous imprisonment. It seems that the more Mr. Cotton is advising the judicial officers of Assam to dispense justice impartially, the more are they treating his advice with contempt. We humbly request Mr. Cotton to call for the file of the case, and do justice to the accused.

NAVA YUG,  
Mar. 29th, 1900.

22. The *Nava Yug* [Calcutta] of the 29th March has the following:—

The officiating Judgeship of the Small Cause Court, has been appointed to officiate as a Judge of the Calcutta High Court during the absence, on leave, of Mr. Justice Hill. We are sorry that Mr. B. L. Gupta, the experienced Civilian Judge, has been deprived of even this officiating appointment. We know that the authorities look upon us as ambitious; but it really pains us to see injustice done to a native officer, who is superior in many respects to many European officers. Lord Curzon alone can remove the cause of our complaint. We never expected that such a policy would be countenanced during the rule of his Lordship.

SANJIVANI,  
Mar. 29th, 1900.

23. The *Sanjivani* [Calcutta] of the 29th March has the following:—

The vacancy caused in the High Court by the retirement of Mr. Justice Macpherson has been given to Mr. Pratt, and the latter's place as Legal Remembrancer has been filled by Mr. B. L. Gupta, the officer next in order of seniority among Civilians. Mr. Gupta has distinguished himself as a District Judge, and is not inferior to any other District Judge in point of ability, but is superior to many. On the retirement of Mr. Wilkins from the High Court bench, Mr. Gupta's claim to the post vacated by him will, therefore, be superior to that of any other District Judge. But it is rumoured that the vacancy which will be caused by Mr. Wilkins' retirement will be filled up by a European Civilian, and that the same artifice will be employed in the case of Mr. B. L. Gupta as was employed to keep Mr. K. G. Gupta out of a Divisional Commissionership. But we can scarcely believe that such injustice will be done under Lord Curzon, or that a deserving officer will be deprived, under his Lordship's rule, for the fault of his nationality and for no other offence, of the preferment to which he is entitled.



24. A Tangail correspondent of the same paper writes as follows:—

SANJIVANI,  
Mar. 29th, 1900.

Refusal to renew licenses for fire arms in the Mymensingh District.

Renewed licenses for fire arms in the Tangail subdivision of the Mymensingh District were not, as usual, granted this year immediately after the 31st December, but were delayed till the month of February. At last, only 25 per cent. and in some places even a smaller percentage of the licenses were renewed, and the rest were cancelled. The rifles for which licenses have been cancelled will have to be deposited with the Government, and their owners will get what price they fetch at a public auction. The other subdivisions, too, have most likely fared no better. But no one knows why the Mymensingh district has come to this plight. There is scarcely any abuse of firearms in this district, and it is, therefore, all the more difficult to understand the cause of the ill-treatment to which it has been subjected by the authorities. The police, acting upon hints received from the higher authorities, were obliged to say that only a limited number of fire arms were needed in the district, and the District Magistrate on his part refused to renew many licenses.

The Government has been unable to give a satisfactory reply to Babu Surendranath Banerjee's enquiry in the Bengal Council about the refusal to renew many licenses in the Dacca district. A similar enquiry should be made in the same place in regard to Mymensingh.

25. The *Mihir-o-Sudhakar* [Calcutta] of the 30th March has the following:—

MIHIR-O-SUDHAKAR,  
Mar. 30th, 1900.

Mr. B. L. Gupta.

We would have been glad to see Mr. B. L. Gupta appointed to one of the vacancies in the Calcutta High Court. However, Sir John Woodburn has done some justice by appointing him to the post of Legal Remembrancer.

26. The *Bharat Mitra* [Calcutta] of the 2nd April wants to know why

BHARAT MITRA,  
April 2nd, 1900.

Mr. B. L. Gupta's claim to a High Court Judgeship.

Mr. Pratt has been appointed to the vacancy caused by Mr. Justice Macpherson's retirement in preference to Mr. B. L. Gupta, an able Civilian Sessions Judge, and why the High Court has proposed to appoint Mr. Handley, Chief Judge of the Calcutta Small Cause Court, in the place of Mr. Hill about to retire, overlooking the claims of Mr. Gupta.

(d)—Education.

27. The *Nava Yug* [Calcutta] of the 29th March has the following:—

NAVA YUG,  
Mar. 29th, 1900.

The Calcutta University's appointment of examiners.

We are glad to notice that Babu Yagneswar Bandyopadhyaya has been appointed an examiner in Bengali in the Entrance Examination of the Calcutta University. But last year Pandit Mahendra Nath Vidyanidhi was appointed an examiner, and the University was not right in superseding him. It is said that the University shows favouritism even in the matter of appointing examiners. But favouritism must not stand in the way of selecting deserving men as examiners. We do not say that there are no better candidates for examinership than Mahendra Babu. But we say that if a change is at all necessary, it ought to be a change for the better.

(e)—Local Self-Government and Municipal administration.

28. The *Pallivasi* [Kalna] of the 8th March suggests the following names

PALLIVASI,  
Mar. 28th, 1900.

Eligible persons for nomination to the Burdwan and Kalna Municipalities.

for nomination by Government as Commissioners of the Burdwan and Kalna Municipalities:—

For Burdwan—Babus Jagatbandhu Mitra and Ganga Narayan Mitra.

For Kalna—1. Babu Aghor Nath Chattopadhyaya, Government Pleader, Chairman of the Kalna Municipality, experienced in municipal business and a very honest man.

2. Babu Bidhubhushan Mukhopadhyaya, Head Master of the Raj School.

3. Babu Prasanna Kumar Sarcar. He takes a great interest in municipal business.

4. Madhav Chandra Mehera, Manager of a large estate.

5. Babu Ulla, spokesman of the Musalman community.



Babus Radha Nath Singha, M.B., Upendra Nath Nag, L.M.S., Basanta Kumar Basu, M.A., B.L., Ram Chandra Chakravarti, B.L., and Sagar Chandra Chakravarti, B.A.

CHARU MIHIR,  
Mar. 27th, 1900.

29. The *Charu Mihir* [Mymensingh] of the 27th March has the following:—

Insanitary Mymensingh.

The sweepings and scales of fish collected in front of our office are not being regularly removed after 12 noon as ordered by the Vice-Chairman of the Mymensingh Municipality, and have therefore become a nuisance to the residents of the neighbourhood. Is there no one to look after the working of the municipality? Who is responsible for this nuisance? The officers or employes concerned ought to be punished for not carrying out the order of the Vice-Chairman.

BURDWAN SANJIVANI,  
Mar. 27th, 1900.

30. The *Burdwan Sanjivani* [Burdwan] of the 27th March has the following:—

The Burdwan Municipality.

The Burdwan municipal elections are over, and a new Board will be formed in a few days. This time an official Chairman will be appointed under the orders of the Government. The Government passed the order because the Commissioners were not on good terms with their former Chairman. But will the Government keep its order in force when the old Municipal Board is dissolved? Of the seven Commissioners who are nominated by Government, four are always non-officials, and if these four non-official Commissioners are able and experienced men, one of them may be appointed to act as Chairman of the municipality. It is not always possible to get able men by election, as electors do not often act independently and, in many instances, are in the dark as to the qualifications of the men whom they elect. But the Government can easily select really worthy men from among the non-officials. The District Magistrate is expected to be acquainted with all the men of position and honour in the District. He can send the names of these men to Government for nomination, and we can help him in the matter. We ask the Government for a reconsideration of its Resolution on the appointment of an official Chairman in the Burdwan Municipality. Is it to be taken for granted that because the Commissioners fell out with Rai Nalinaksha Basu Bahadur, the late Chairman of the municipality, they should fall out with every other Chairman? Under these circumstances, we request the Government to nominate seven worthy men as Commissioners, and to restore to the municipality the right to elect its own Chairman. If this time, too, the Commissioners fail to do their work properly, we shall not utter a word of protest if local self-government is entirely abolished from the district.

HITAKARI,  
Mar. 28th, 1900.

31. The *Hitakari* [Kushtia] of the 28th March has the following:—

A ferry complaint.

Some time ago we brought to the notice of the authorities certain irregularities in connection with the Bahadurkhali ferry ghât, in the Nadia district, but we regret to say that nothing has been as yet done to remove the grievances of the public.

NAVA YUG,  
Mar. 29th, 1900.

32. The *Nava Yug* [Calcutta] of the 29th March has the following:—

The Special Health Officer of  
the Calcutta Municipality.

On the 21st March last when some bedding and clothes belonging to a plague patient were being burnt in front of our office at No. 34-1, College Street, the neighbouring shop-keepers were unable to remain in their shops in consequence of the offensive smell which came from the burning articles. We wrote a letter to Dr. Cook, Health Officer of the Calcutta Corporation, enquiring if it was advisable to burn the belongings of a plague patient in this manner. We have got the following reply from H. E. Deane, Special Health Officer:—"Please refer this to the Chairman for reply." Mr. Deane is specially employed on plague duty, and is therefore expected to furnish any information that may be required about plague matters. If it is the Chairman who is to furnish such information, what is the good of maintaining a highly paid officer like Mr. Deane? We are astonished at Mr. Deane's reply. The plague department is directly under the Health Officer. Mr. Deane did not, therefore, act rightly in referring us to the Chairman for such information.

KHULNA,  
Mar. 29th, 1900.

33. The *Khulna* [Khulna] of the 29th March says that the municipal

Water supply in Khulna.

employes of the Khulna Municipality often fill reservoirs with water carried in buckets from tanks when the pumps are out of order. Water is poured from the buckets into



the pipes, made of betelnuts, and through these it passes into the reservoirs. The municipal authorities ought to see that no dirty buckets are dipped into the tanks, and also that the pipes are kept clean. Small worms have often been found in the water brought from the municipal tank. At present water is not supplied to all the reservoirs in the town, and the residents of Koilaghata have to drink the brackish water of the river, which is unfit for drinking at this time of the year.

34. The *Basirhat Suhrid* [Basirhat] of the 31st March has the following:—

The Baduria Municipality, in the 24-Parganas district.

Babu Upendra Nath Basu, the late tax-collector of the Baduria Municipality, in the 24-Parganas district, was prosecuted for embezzling municipal money, but was acquitted. May we ask who brought this charge against him, what were the grounds of his acquittal, and whether he will be reinstated in his office? Is there any objection to reinstating him? Another man was appointed to the post of Upendra Babu during his suspension; why has that man been dismissed? Did not the grounds on which he has been dismissed exist at the time of his appointment? If so, why was he appointed at all? Will the Commissioners also say if taxes with costs are being duly realised from the rate-payers, and if it is a fact that a certain rate-payer was gratuitously exempted from paying costs. Who made this exemption and under what law? The Commissioners should also enlighten the public as to the cause of the discontinuance of all drainage and conservancy works in the municipality.

BASIRHAT SUHRID.  
Mar. 31st, 1900.

35. Babu Ram Nath Pathak, Circle Pandit of Pabra, in the Rangpur district, writes in the *Bankura Darpan* [Bankura] of the 1st April as follows:—

Water-scarcity in a village in the Rangpur district.

The residents of village Pabra, within the jurisdiction of the Gangajalghati police-station, in the Rangpur district, are suffering greatly from water-scarcity. The tanks and other reservoirs of water in the village have all run dry, and the villagers have to walk a mile from their village to get their drinking water. There is a well in front of the school-house at Pabra, and people have been seen to wait for a whole night by its side in order to draw water from it. As soon as sufficient water is collected in the well it is carried away by the villagers in small pots. We do not know what is in store for them in the latter part of the hot season. Under these circumstances the villagers will be greatly benefited if the Government excavates one or two wells in the village.

BANKURA DARPAN,  
April 1st, 1900.

(f)—Questions affecting the land.

36. The *Sri Sri Vishnupriya-o-Ananda Bazar Patrika* [Calcutta] of the 28th March has the following:—

The khas mahal raiyats of Midnapore.

The condition of the khas mahal raiyats of Midnapore is growing from bad to worse. It is of course useless now to discuss the mistakes committed by the local officials, but we hoped that such discussion might draw the attention of the Lieutenant-Governor and induce him to rectify these mistakes. But unfortunately our hope has not been fulfilled.

Our Midnapore correspondent complains of the prevalence of scarcity in Midnapore. Babu Juanada Charan Basu, the khas tahsil officer of Contai, made an investigation into the complaints of scarcity, and reported the destruction of about twelve annas of the crops. But the Subdivisional Officer did not believe him, and without making any enquiry, reported the loss of only four annas of the crops. The Government is requested to depute an officer to enquire into the complaints of raiyats. The sooner this enquiry is made, the better. The fields will be soon tilled again, and it will be too late to make the enquiry after they have been ploughed up.

The following notice, which has been lately issued, shows how land revenue is being rigorously realised:—

#### NOTICE.

TAHSIL OFFICE, CONTAI, DISTRICT MIDNAPORE,

Dated the 8th March 1900.

It is hereby notified to the raiyats of the Arhgoyal and Udabadal circuits that they will be granted a remission of four annas of their rent if they

SRI SRI VISHNU  
PRIYA-O-  
ANANDA BAZAR  
PATRIKA,  
Mar. 28th, 1900.



deposit twelve annas of their rent for 1307 B.S., by the 31st March 1900. If they fail to deposit the rent within that period, no remission will be granted, and the full demand will be realised.

This notice is signed by the Subdivisional Officer of Contai.

Repeated failures of crops have reduced the raiyats to utter destitution, and they are not in a position to act according to the above notification. It is also said that certificates will be soon issued for the realisation of this year's rent. Last year's certificates have all but ruined the raiyats, and if certificates are issued again, they will be utterly undone. It is, however, hoped that no certificates will be issued this year.

(g)—*Railways and communications, including canals and irrigation.*

SIKSHAK SUHRID,  
Mar. 28th, 1900.

37. A correspondent of the *Sikshak Suhrid* [Dacca] of the 28th March says that the construction of the Jhalakathi-Kirtipasha road in the Backergunge district, was commenced in 1303 B.S., in which year only about a mile of the road was constructed. The remaining portion, a length of only two miles, was taken in hand in the rainy season of the following year. But, though the Board's money was spent, and much injury was done to the people around by cutting away earth from their houses, &c., the newly-made road could not, owing to the heavy rains, be properly constructed. The task was taken in hand in the same season during each of the three succeeding years, but with the same result. Why was the Board's money wasted in this way?

SRI SRI VISHNU  
PRIYA-O-  
ANANDA BAZAR  
PATRIKA,  
Mar. 28th, 1900.

38. The *Sri Sri Vishnupriya-o-Ananda Bazar Patrika* [Calcutta] of the 28th March complains of the conduct of a Eurasian ticket-collector of the name of Robertson at the Sealdah station. On the 18th February last there was a rush of passengers at the station, owing to the defective arrangements for plague examination. The Eurasian ticket-collector was found belabouring the passengers with a stick. Babu Suresh Chandra Lahiri, a pleader of Faridpur, was among the passengers. He remonstrated with the ticket-collector, but his remonstrance was not heard. He reported the matter to the plague doctor and a native ticket-collector. He also wanted to report the matter to the Assistant Station-master, but he was away, and Suresh Babu had to go away without seeing him. He subsequently reported the matter to the railway authorities, who called for an explanation from Robertson. Robertson denied the charge, and the matter ended there, the railway authorities attributing Suresh Babu's complaint to race prejudice. The question of race prejudice, however, could not arise in this case. Suresh Babu is an educated gentleman and it is not likely that he should complain against a man without any cause. When Suresh Babu reported the matter to the plague doctor, he said that he had heard similar complaints against the same ticket-collector from other sources. Suresh Babu had also cited Babu Jogesh Chandra Biswas of Serajganj as a witness, and the railway authorities might write to him for the verification of Suresh Babu's statement. It seems to us that the railway authorities have been more anxious to shield the ticket-collector than to ascertain the truth of Suresh Babu's complaint.

MEDINI BANDHAV,  
Mar. 28th, 1900.

39. The *Medini Bandhav* [Midnapore] of the 28th March complains that there are no waiting-rooms or refreshment stalls at the stations on the Midnapore-Cuttack line of the Bengal-Nagpur Railway. There is also no fencing along the line in several places, which is the reason that, as reported by a correspondent, a boy was run over by a train on the 20th March last. Some time ago a similar accident happened to two cows. The attention of the railway authorities is called to these matters.

SANJIVANI,  
Mar. 29th, 1900.

40. The *Sanjivani* [Calcutta] of the 29th March says that on the 18th March last a Brahman youth was killed by a passing train between the Hotar and Baruipur stations on the southern section of the Eastern Bengal State Railway. There is a gate on the line on the spot where the man was killed, but there is no gate-keeper to warn people about a coming train. The driver called out to the man but did not stop the train. The train was stopped when the man had been run over in order to pick up his body.



A little after nightfall on the 24th March last, many of the passengers by a down train on this line received injuries in consequence of derailment.

On the Monday following, when a passenger train from Diamond Harbour reached Magra Hat at 7-22 A.M., a brake-van was standing alongside the platform, and the train had therefore to stop beyond the platform to the extreme inconvenience of the passengers. The station-master ought to have sent the brake-van to a siding, when a train was expected. But on this line the employés never look to the comfort and convenience of passengers. At the Balliaghata station passengers are very badly treated, not only by the European employés, but also by the menial staff. On the 24th March last, when a gentleman was abused by a *chaprasi* for asking him to bring the key of a carriage, a European employé stood looking on, and seemed to enjoy the scene. The gentleman was compelled to apologise.

41. The same paper says that except five public roads, there is not another road in the Chittagong Hill Tracts. There is not even a single village road in the whole subdivision. The only communications for the people are, therefore, narrow and dangerous paths through wood and hill. The rivers, it is true, afford good means of communication, but when their current becomes strong or when they dry up, people have only the paths referred to above to use. In these circumstances, the authorities are requested to construct the following village roads for the convenience of the people:—

A road from Chandraghona *via* Rangamati and Mahalchhari to Sarta or Manikchhari.

A road from Ramgarh to Barabili.

A road from the Kachlang Mohana to Saioni.

A road from the Raingkang Mohana to Saidong.

A road from Chakaria *via* Lassa to Bhujjuru.

As these roads will all pass close to riverbanks, they will not cost much in construction.

42. A correspondent of the *Khulna* [Khulna] of the 29th March says that the bridge over the *khal* which passes through Rajpat and Sonakhali, in the Khulna district, is in a dilapidated condition. It is said that the District Board has ordered the construction of an iron bridge over the *khal*, but no steps have yet been taken to carry out the order.

43. The *Hindi Bangavasi* [Calcutta] of the 2nd April draws the attention of the railway authorities to the difficulties which the third and intermediate-class passengers have to undergo at the Howrah station. These passengers have to procure their tickets with great difficulty. Sometimes they cannot procure tickets in time, and have in consequence to miss the trains. Again, they have to pass to the platform through a narrow passage, where the plague doctor examines them. The police, who guard the entrance as well as the ticket stalls, oppress those who do not bribe them.

(h)—General.

44. The *Nasrat-ul-Islam* [Calcutta] of the 16th March says that real plague has broken out in some places in Bihar. The Government is doing its best to check its spread, but the way in which the plague officers are dealing with the people is not satisfactory. They treat the people harshly. The divisional officers depend upon the Health Officers, who are managing the affairs in some places so badly that almost all people complain against them. The circle and police officers who are working under the Health Officer of Barh do not hesitate to trouble even healthy people. In fact, the Health Officer instead of looking after the health of the place is trying to clear that place of its residents. No one can describe without a shudder the manner in which the Health Officer, Circle Officer, and the police are oppressing the people of Barh. In truth, the people of Barh are not being benefited by the plague measures, simply because the plague officers of the place are very oppressive. Our kind and merciful ruler, Sir John Woodburn, ought to direct his attention to the plague.

SANJIVANI,  
Mar. 29th, 1900.

KHULNA,  
Mar. 29th, 1900.

HINDI BANGAVASI,  
April 2nd, 1900.

NASRAT-UL-ISLAM  
Mar. 16th, 1900.



measures in Bihar. He ought to adopt such peaceful measures in Bihar as he has adopted in Calcutta. He ought to save the people of Barh from the oppressive hands of the plague officers.

CHARU MIHIR,  
Mar. 27th, 1900.

45. The *Charu Mihir* [Mymensingh] of the 27th March has the following:—

The financial statement.

It appears from the financial statement published in the *Gazette of India* that there was a surplus of £2,640,873 in 1898-99 and of £2,562,800 in 1899-1900, and a surplus of £160,300 has been estimated for 1900-1901. The statement appears to be hopeful at first sight, but on close examination ceases to be such. The surplus estimated for 1900-1901 will be nowhere if three crores are not borrowed. There has been a reduction of two crores in the capital expenditure. Who can say that the estimated revenue for the ensuing year will be wholly realised until the famine is over? The opium revenue also is very uncertain. We have, therefore, very little reason to congratulate ourselves on the financial statement.

BASUMATI,  
Mar. 29th, 1900.

46. The *Basumati* [Calcutta] of the 29th March is glad that Babu Tarini Kumar Ghosh, Deputy Collector, has been appointed Inspector-General of Registration, in the place of Khan Bahadur Maulvi Delawar Hossein.

The Inspector-Generalship of Registration.

NAVA YUG,  
Mar. 29th, 1900.

47. The *Nava Yug* [Calcutta] of the 29th March has the following:—

Plague administration in Patna and Dinapore.

The stringent measures adopted by the officials for the suppression of plague in Patna and Dinapore, have not the approval of our Lieutenant-Governor. Sir John Woodburn wants to see the policy which has been adopted in Calcutta, also followed in other places in Bengal, and he has let the Magistrates of Patna and Dinapore know his mind on the matter. It is a matter of regret, however, that the officials concerned are not following his advice. The Lieutenant-Governor ought to enquire why the civilians are so anxious to follow their own way in this matter.

SANJIVANI,  
Mar. 29th, 1900.

48. The *Sanjivani* [Calcutta] of the 29th March says that in ordering the

The attempt to introduce a gold currency in India.

payment of money-orders in Calcutta in sovereigns, Government means to say that the people should carry on their transactions in gold. But how many people are there in this country who are able to do so? Is it possible for the people of a country, in the currency of which such tokens as cowries, half-pice pieces and pies still find a place, and the majority of whose residents find it difficult to spend a silver coin, to carry on their daily transactions in gold? The truth is that as soon as the Post Office pays a money-order in sovereigns, the payee goes straight to the Currency Office or to the Bank of Bengal to get the coins changed. It is said that the Bank and the Currency Office refuse to receive any but fresh gold-coins. If this be a fact, Government's attempt to introduce a gold currency must prove unsuccessful. Why should not the Bank or the Currency Office receive soiled coins, when such coins are paid to the public by the Post Office? The Calcutta people may take to a gold currency if every facility is given them for changing gold coins. But an attempt to introduce a gold currency in the mufassal will be attended with disastrous results.

SANJIVANI.

49. The same paper complains of the unsatisfactory way in which the

Postal service in the Chittagong Hill Tracts.

work of the Postal Department is carried on in the Chittagong Hill Tracts.

In the whole subdivision there is only one sub-post office at Rangamati and two branch post offices, at Chandraghona and Bandarban, respectively. Letters, &c., are received in most places not oftener than once or twice a week. The distances between the villages and the bad condition of the roads prevent the postmen from doing their duty satisfactorily. More post offices are, therefore, urgently needed. By entrusting the charge of post offices to pathsala teachers, the present inconvenience can be removed at a trifling increase of cost.

HITAVADI,  
Mar. 30th, 1900.

50. The *Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 30th March writes as follows:—

The Munda rebellion.

There is a good deal of mystery underlying the Munda rebellion. Mr. Jacob, counsel for some of the Munda prisoners, said that thirty years' misrule and oppression had



goaded the Mundas to rebellion. The police had committed inhuman oppression upon them and shot four hundred of them dead. Mr. Platel, a civilian who has been empowered to try the accused, is, it is said, holding his court in the jail. About three hundred Mundas are being tried in batches, and have not been given facilities for defending themselves. The friends of the Munda prisoners were raising subscriptions for the defence of the accused, but the police attacked them and took possession of the money raised. The charge against the police is serious and so also is the charge against the Mundas. It will not be just to deprive the Mundas of the opportunities of self-defence or of the help of their friends and relatives. Let the Munda prisoners have justice. Let the mystery of the Munda rebellion be made public. Let the police oppression of the Mundas draw the public attention.

51. The same paper is glad to understand that Babu Tarini Kumar Ghosh has been appointed Inspector-General of Registration on the retirement of Khan Bahadur Delawar Hossain Ahmad. It is superfluous to say that the Government has done honour to merit and ability by appointing Tarini Babu to the Inspector-Generalship.

HITAVADI,  
Mar. 30th, 1900.

52. The same paper writes as follows:—

The financial statement.

The hopeful prospects presented to us in the last year's budget have been falsified this year. The Government points to the famine as the cause of our disappointment. Famine, though a natural calamity, has become almost a matter of every-day occurrence in this country. Such a natural calamity as the earthquake is beyond human control, but famine is the inevitable consequence of the unthinking policy of the Government. Famine is without doubt the consequence of the waste of public money, and the Indian people have to depend upon others for the relief of their distress, because the Government has repeatedly broken its promise. Famine in India is thus clearly the consequence of the Government's own actions, and it is worse than useless to call it a natural calamity. If the entire stock of food-grains yielded by the Indian soil had been applied to the relieving of the distress of the Indian people, if the money of the Indian tax-payer had also been spent for the same purpose, we would not have had any cause for complaint, and might have looked upon the famine as a purely natural calamity.

It will now be too premature to say whether the gold currency newly introduced into the country will be a success. The most striking points in the financial statement is that there has been a surplus of twenty-six lakhs and forty-one thousand pounds, notwithstanding the fact that a widespread famine has broken out in the country, and land revenue amounting to eleven lakhs and eighty thousand pounds remains still unrealised. There has been a satisfactory rise in the railway, postal, and excise revenue. There has been an increase in the military expenditure. The financial condition of India must therefore be said to be hopeful, when it is seen that there has been a surplus notwithstanding the heavy drains on the public exchequer.

It appears that a large portion of the cost of transporting troops to South Africa has been placed on the shoulders of the Indian tax-payer. India has absolutely nothing to do with the Transvaal war, and we fail to understand why India should bear any portion of its cost. In our opinion, it has been a waste of money to replace the horses sent to South Africa, to increase the pay of the commissariat officers, and to incur other military expenses. The diamond mines in the Transvaal may in course of time yield a large profit to England, but India will not profit by that in any way. Why should, then, the Indian tax-payer bear a portion of the expenditure which has been incurred by England in increasing her own wealth?

On the whole, however, the financial statement this year has been satisfactory.

53. The *Mihir-o-Sudhakar* [Calcutta] of the 30th March is glad to see that Babu Tarini Kumar Ghosh, Deputy Collector, has been appointed Inspector-General of Registration in the place of Khan Bahadur Maulvi Delwar Hossain. The public are grateful to the Government for reserving the post of Inspector-General of Registration for natives.

The Inspector-Generalship of Registration.

MIHIR-O-SUDHAKAR,  
Mar. 30th, 1900.



BANKURA DARPAN,  
April 1st, 1900.

54. The *Bankura Darpan* [Bankura] of the 1st April has the following:—

The new Inspector General of Registration.

We are grateful to Sir John Woodburn for appointing Babu Tarini Kumar Ghosh, the distinguished Deputy Collector, to the post of Inspector-General of Registration. He is liked by Hindus and Musalmans alike.

BHARAT MITRA,  
April 2nd, 1900.

55. The *Bharat Mitra* [Calcutta] of the 2nd April writes that the Government has shown its kindness to the natives of India by appointing Babu Tarini Kumar Ghose Inspector-General of Registration.

The new Inspector-General of Registration.

BHARAT MITRA.

56. The same paper says that whatever Sir John Woodburn is doing in dealing with the plague is highly praiseworthy. He gave satisfaction to the public by skilfully settling the quarrel which arose between the police

Sir John Woodburn on the plague.

and the public in the plague-stricken places in Bihar. He is trying his best to put down the oppressive conduct of the police and the plague officers.

BHARAT MITRA.

57. The same paper says that the successful students of Cooper's Hill College used so long to be appointed to the Public Works Departments in India in order of merit, but in future the Secretary of State will exercise

The new regulations regarding Cooper's Hill men.

his discretion in making these appointments. The new system will benefit the European candidates. Cooper's Hill College was originally established for the education of English students, and the Secretary of State may rightly feel irritated if Indian students make encroachments upon the preserves of Englishmen. No one ought therefore to be dissatisfied with the new system.

HABUL MATEEN,  
April 2nd, 1900.

58. The *Hablul Mateen* [Calcutta] of the 2nd April is sorry that the plague is making havoc in Calcutta. The plague mortality during the last two years was low

The plague in Calcutta.

incomparison with this year's plague mortality. The public did not then admit that real plague had broken out in Calcutta. But this year they cannot deny the existence of plague.

PRATIVASI,  
April 2nd, 1900.

59. The *Prativasi* [Calcutta] of the 2nd April thus comments on Lord Curzon's budget speech:—

Lord Cruzon's habit of defending Government.

with a jugglery of words. He always tries to arrive at the conclusion that the prayer is either unreasonable, or improper, or unnatural. He marshals his arguments so skilfully, he uses his power of speech so dexterously that one is often led to think that it was foolishness on one's part to have made such a prayer as that. But a ruler who is mindful of the interests of the people should be more than a mere dialectician.

In his budget speech, Lord Curzon made the following remarks with reference to the question of the reduction of the land assessment:—

"Now I cannot pause to-day to discuss the question of land assessments. We have listened to some interesting observations on the subject from Mr. Bose, the Maharaja of Darbhanga, and Mr. Mehta. What they have said will have the earnest attention of Government. But I may point out, in terms of pounds, shillings, and pence, exactly what a great Indian drought does involve in the destruction of agricultural wealth; and those who hear the figures may then judge how far any revision or modification of our revenue system, putting aside the question whether it be or be not desirable or feasible, would of itself alone enable an agricultural population to stand the shock of a calamity at once so sudden and so devastating."

A boy who is sick goes to his father and complains of his ill-treatment by his elder brother. The father answers that he was so ill that even the putting down of the ill-treatment complained of was not likely to do him any good. Lord Curzon's reply is like the reply of the father above mentioned. It may be inferred from this reply that Lord Curzon does not value the observations made in the Council regarding the assessment of land. A good and conscientious ruler should not make it a point to defend the Government at all costs. He should try his best to reduce the misery of the people. To improve the condition of a person, it is necessary to reduce his expenditure as well as to increase his income. It may be that the existing system of land assessment



is impoverishing the raiyats, and their increasing poverty renders them helpless whenever there is an outbreak of famine or scarcity. It is true that no permanent amelioration of the condition of the raiyat can be expected so long as he does not find out new occupation. But it must at the same time be admitted that the burden of taxation that rests on him ought to be lightened, if it is proved to be heavy. There can be little doubt that a revision or modification of the existing system of land revenue is desirable, and Lord Curzon has disappointed us by postponing the consideration of this question.

### III.—LEGISLATIVE.

60. The *Sanjivani* [Calcutta] of the 29th March has the following:—

Necessity of amending the Hindu law of inheritance.

One Dharmadas Haldar, a rich man of Sulkea, near Howrah, died in the year 1852 or 1853, leaving considerable property and two brothers, named, respectively, Radhanath and Jatadhari, a widow and an infant daughter. The estate was partitioned after Dharmadas's death into three equal shares, the two brothers taking a share each, and the widow the third share. In 1891, Dharma Das's widow died, and as, of Dharamdas's two brothers, Radhanath alone was living at the time, he instituted a suit against Mokshada, Dharma Das's daughter, who had no son living, and got the widow's property. Now, Mokshada had been married to one Digambar Datta, who died during his father's life-time, leaving a number of daughters and one son. Unfortunately this boy of Mokshada's died while his maternal grandmother was yet alive. The combination of these unfortunate circumstances deprived Mokshada, according to the *Dayabhaga* system of Hindu law, of all share, both in her own father's and in her husband's father's property, and she was left without any means of livelihood. Under the circumstances, Mokshada moved the High Court for a decree against the sons and grandsons of Radhanath to provide for her maintenance out of her father's estate. The presiding Judge, Mr. Ahmed Ali, whilst expressing every sympathy with the helpless widow, had no alternative but to decide the case according to the rules of the *Dayabhaga*, against her. A case like this had never before been decided by the Calcutta High Court. There was only one Bombay precedent. And Mokshada's case was decided against her on the strength of that precedent.

The Hindu law may be against Mokshada; but had Dharmadas been living, would he have refused to maintain his helpless daughter, because she has lost her son? Every law, social as well as administrative, stands in need of amendment as time passes. If the author of the *Dayabhaga* had come across a case like Mokshada's, he would certainly, in disregard of all religious considerations, have made some provision in his code for helpless women like Mokshada. The *Dayabhaga* and the *Mitakshara* which were compiled very long ago, stand in need of amendment in the light of modern experience. Thanks to the Privy Council, many points in the law of Hindu succession have been modified, and we are sure that if poor Mokshada's case came up before that tribunal, the Hon'ble Judges constituting that court would not leave her a beggar merely out of regard for the narrow-minded injunctions of the existing Hindu law. Formerly, a son of a Hindu, who became an apostate from his father's religion, was deprived of his father's property. But the hardship which this provision of the Hindu law entailed made Government change that law. And will not the Government amend the Hindu law, in so far as it affects women in Mokshada's position? The necessity of changing the Hindu law on the latter point is greater than the necessity of giving apostate sons a right to their father's property, inasmuch as sons, though disinherited, may earn a livelihood for themselves, whilst women are precluded, by the law and the conditions of life prevailing in the country, from earning a livelihood for themselves, and have always to be dependent upon the sterner sex for maintenance. The native members of the Viceroy's Council will be blessed by all women in Mokshada's position, if they explain to the Law Member the defect of the Hindu law on this point and request him to remove it. In the name of justice and humanity, the Government of India should take pity on helpless Indian women and remove the harsh provision of the *Dayabhaga* as regards the succession of women to their father's property. Messrs. R. Mitter and B. M. Chatterji,

SANJIVANI,  
Mar. 29th, 1900.



who so kindly conducted Mokshada's case in the High Court, are requested to arrange for an appeal to the Privy Council. It is a shame to the Bengali Hindus and to their law of succession that a woman like Mokshada, whose father left immense wealth, should have to starve by reason of a technicality in the Hindu law of inheritance.

#### IV.—NATIVE STATES.

DACCA PRAKASH,  
April 1st, 1900.

61. The *Dacca Prakash*, [Dacca] of the 1st April has the following:—

The Maharaja of Tippera has unjustly deprived his brother, Samarendra Chandra Dev Barman, of his rightful title to the *Yuvarajship*. It reflects great credit on Samarendra

Tippera.

Chandra that, instead of resorting to violence, he has appealed to the Government, praying for a redress of the wrong done to him. There is overwhelming evidence of his title to the *Yuvarajship*, but he is too poor to engage the services of an able counsel. It is said that the Maharaja has also deprived him of his landed property and rendered him completely helpless, so much so that he is now feeling it difficult to make the two ends meet. It is, however, hoped that Sir John Woodburn will cause a sifting enquiry to be instituted into Samarendra Chandra's complaints and do justice to him.

It is said that the Lieutenant-Governor has called upon the Maharaja to submit an explanation. It is a great regret that Mr. Bolton, who was acquainted with the ins-and-outs of the Tippera *Raj*, has now gone home on a long furlough. The Maharaja is celebrating his son's marriage ceremony. It is suspected that he has an ulterior motive in celebrating his son's marriage ceremony in hot haste. It will supply him with an excuse for delaying the explanation he has been called upon to submit; it will also enable him to proclaim his son as the *Yuvaraj* far and wide. His son is too young to marry, and he is going to marry the daughter of a member of the royal family of Nepal. This connection is not and cannot be approved by the Hindu Shastras, and the object of this connection is most probably to win the approbation of Europeans. The Nepalese and Tippera dialects widely differ from each other, and this makes the connection all the more strange and unjustifiable.

#### V.—PROSPECTS OF THE CROPS AND CONDITION OF THE PEOPLE.

NAVA YUG,  
Mar. 29th, 1900.

62. The *Nava Yug* [Calcutta] of the 29th March has the following:—

American help in the Indian famine.

Subscriptions are being raised in America for the relief of the famine-stricken in India, and Lord Curzon has consented to accept America's help. It does not speak well of the English Government to take the help of a foreign nation in order to relieve the distress of its own subjects. This means that we would have died of famine if America had not been generous enough to come forward to our relief. It must be admitted that America's liberality has saved our lives.

#### VI.—MISCELLANEOUS.

MIHIR-O-SUDHAKAR,  
Mar. 29th, 1900.

63. The *Mihir-o-Sudhakar* [Calcutta] of the 29th March contains the following notice of Babu Akshay Kumar Maitra's *Siraj-ud-daulah* by a correspondent:—

Babu Akshay Kumar Maitra's *Siraj-ud-daulah*.

The book has gratified our long-felt desire. It is an agreeable surprise that in a country, where the character of Siraj-ud-daulah is painted black by the old and the young, where Musalmans are insulted at every step by Hindus, and where Hindu writers want to make themselves famous by painting the Musalman character black, a Hindu should volunteer to clear Siraj-ud-daulah, the last independent Musalman ruler of Bengal, of the blame which has been heaped on him—to remove the dark stain from his character. This leads us to hope that a day *will* come when Hindus and Musalmans will forget their quarrels and animosities, unite as brothers under the standard of the benign British Government, and work incessantly for their common welfare. May there be more writers like Akshay Kumar! We thank him for his unselfish research, and shall ever remain grateful to him. He has extracted the sharp arrow which had so long lain embedded in our heart, by proving that Siraj was not a fiend in human shape. Siraj was



born and brought up in a royal family; he was a king. It is not therefore reasonable to think that he had no kingly qualities. It pains us to see him called a vicious man, the lowest specimen of humanity, a fiend in human shape. In all school-books we are pained to see all these epithets applied to Siraj-ud-daulah. Akshay Babu has relieved us of this pain. He has done more; he has removed from the public mind all those mistaken ideas about Siraj, which they had so long entertained. It is a rare good fortune to have a writer like Akshay Kumar. We cannot respect him too much.

We have been so blind as to ignore all the virtues of Siraj, and our imagination has conjured up before our view a fearful Siraj, a terrible figure! Alas! the people of this country cannot distinguish a friend from a foe. Siraj! unfortunate Siraj! you have not been able to escape the contumely of the world even by sacrificing your life at the hands of an assassin. The world is heaping abuse and curses on your soul. The assassin wounded your material body with a dagger and critics are now tormenting your spirit with abuse and a contumely as keen as an arrow. But wait for the day of judgment. You committed the fault of not acting as the country wanted you to act. You wanted to promote its welfare, but the country did not want welfare, it did not understand you. You paved your way to destruction by trying to remove the misery of the people.

Our perusal of Nabin Babu's *Palasir Juddha* pained us. Akshay Babu has removed that pain by placing before us Siraj as he really was; he has by so doing honoured truth. After a century-and-a-half truth has triumphed over falsehood, and there stands before us Siraj in all his glory. Let us look at that picture and shed tears of delight.

64. The *Bangabandhu* [Chandernagore] of the 24th March has the

The *Statesman's* praise of following:—  
England.

About a month ago the *Statesman* of Calcutta wrote that France was yearning for German friendship, and that it was shameful for a country like France to soothe another country with flattery in order to gain its friendship. The present position of the *Statesman*, however, which wrote in this vein only a month ago, now excites our laughter. The *Statesman* is now repeatedly writing that the English are a great and civilised nation, that they are extremely fond of liberty, and that an Englishman is goodness incarnate. It has become the first and foremost object of the *Statesman* to prove England deserving of the praise of the world. Itself loud in England's praise the *Statesman* does not miss even one word of praise that is uttered by any one outside the British Isles. Let any one praise the bravery of the English soldier, let a critic refer to the inexhaustible fighting resources of England, while pointing out the inefficiency and foolishness of British Generals, and the *Statesman* at once transfers the praise to its own columns. The other day, this paper wrote that France does not like England because she is England's old and implacable foe, Russia does not like England because she is France's ally, Germany does not like England because she is jealous of its wealth and the vastness of its Empire, America does not like England, because there is a large number of Germans, Irishmen, and Dutchmen in the American population, and Holland and Denmark do not like England, because the Dutch and the Danes are closely related to the Boers. But let a Frenchman praise English civilisation, and the praise will not escape the *Statesman's* notice. Let an American critic praise British Generalship and the *Statesman* at once honours the praise with an editorial notice. And it is this *Statesman* which picks holes in other people's conduct. Let the whole world find fault with England the *Statesman* will prove that she deserves the world's respect. It flatters the American by calling him a brother, it solicits the favour of Japan, it soothes Italy with sweet words in order to gain her friendship. To tell the truth, the *Statesman's* conduct has exceedingly amused us.

Neither Germany nor France, neither Russia nor America, neither Holland nor Denmark, loves England, but still England is good. She is good most probably because she is praised by the Basutoes, the Iroquois and the Esquimaux; she is good most probably because she is despised by all the other Powers in the world. England is powerful most probably because the very look of displeasure of Germany or France or Russia puts her out of countenance.

BANGABANDHU,  
Mar. 24th, 1900.



She is a great Power most probably because she is feared by Portugal. This is, without doubt, exceedingly good.

It may be said that England's strength and power are proved by the fact that she has again and again humbled France. But the art of warfare has undergone a change, and the new art of warfare has not been cultivated so much in England as in France and Germany. British Generals are sadly ignorant of the new art of warfare, and their ignorance has been proved in the Boer War. British troops led by eminent Generals could not storm Boer positions entrenched under the direction of petty French officers. French cannon out-ranged British cannon. Mr. Bloch, a French military critic, predicted England's defeat in the Boer War before the war broke out. He also says that in a war with France or Germany, England would lose more soldiers than in the Boer War.

All this leads us to look upon England as a weak Power. But the *Statesman* thinks otherwise; it must anyhow prove England strong. It is making itself ridiculous.

NAVA YUG,  
Mar. 29th, 1900.

65. The *Nava Yug* [Calcutta] of the 29th March writes as follows:—

Lord Curzon's reply to the deputation of the Imperial Anglo-Indian Association.

A Eurasian Association, styled the Imperial Anglo-Indian Association, lately sent an application to the Viceroy, praying, among other things, for the formation of a purely Eurasian regiment. The reply which the high-minded Lord Curzon has made to the application of this Association of Eurasians of a complexity of complexions has not been flattering to them. These Eurasians pretended to pass for Englishmen of pure extraction under the title of Imperial Anglo-Indian Association, but they have received the snubbing they deserved from Lord Curzon.

HITAVADI,  
Mar. 30th, 1900.

66. The *Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 30th March writes as follows:—

Lord Curzon's reply to the Eurasian deputation.

What Lord Curzon said in reply to the deputation of the Imperial Anglo-Indian Association was never before said by any official in reply to a deputation from that body. There was no want of courtesy and modesty in the Viceroy's speech, but after what he has said in reply to the prayers of the Eurasian community, no one will venture to make unreasonable prayers to him. There was a little severity in Lord Curzon's tone, but it was unavoidable in a speech in which the speaker's chief object was to maintain justice. There was no rudeness in the Viceroy's tone; yet his plain speaking has without doubt failed to satisfy the Eurasian community. For our part, however, we shall be highly satisfied if Lord Curzon's advice induces the Eurasian community to improve their condition. This is why Lord Curzon's speech has satisfied us.

HITAVADI.

67. A correspondent contradicts in the same paper the statements contained in a correspondence published in a previous issue of the paper (*vide* Report on Native Papers for 17th March, para. 37).

The Sitlai estate in the Pabna district.

BHARAT MITRA,  
April 2nd, 1900.

68. The *Bharat Mitra* [Calcutta] of the 2nd April says that many Eurasians hold posts of responsibility and trust under the Government. They are very forward in making demands for a larger share in the public service,

The Eurasian demand for employment.

but they are not equally forward in improving the intellectual and moral condition of their community. It is true that no one ought to feel jealous of the Eurasian community if they get employment under the Government, but the Indians do feel jealous, because they also have to depend chiefly upon the public service for a living, their trade and commerce and manufacture having been destroyed by foreign competition. Under these circumstances, they will be rendered absolutely helpless if the doors of the public service are closed against them.

#### URIYA PAPERS.

UTKALDIPIKA,  
Mar. 17th, 1900.

69. The *Utkaldipika* [Cuttack] of the 17th March thanks the District Superintendent of Police, Cuttack, for the serious notice he has taken of the conduct of the head-constable concerned in the case reported in paragraph 68 of the Report on Native Papers for the week ending the 17th March

Controlling of subordinates by District Superintendents of Police.



1900. The writer hopes that the district authorities will control their subordinates in such a way as not to give occasion to the public to complain of police oppression in future.

70. The same paper is sorry to find that the land-registration suits now pending before the courts in Cuttack are being pushed on so vigorously that certain parties run the risk of materially losing their interests. The writer hopes that the parties will learn to be more careful in the future and be ready with their evidence on the date of hearing.

UTKALDIPIKA,  
Mar. 17th, 1900.

CHUNDER NATH BOSE,

*Bengali Translator.*

BENGALI TRANSLATOR'S OFFICE,

*The 7th April 1900.*



1000. The writer hopes that the distribution of  
notes in such a way as to give attention to  
appeal in time.  
The same paper is sent to find out  
the reason for the delay in the  
distribution of the notes. The writer  
hopes that the same paper will be  
distributed in a way that will be  
of benefit to the people.

The writer hopes that the distribution of  
notes in such a way as to give attention to  
appeal in time.

The same paper is sent to find out  
the reason for the delay in the  
distribution of the notes. The writer  
hopes that the same paper will be  
distributed in a way that will be  
of benefit to the people.

The writer hopes that the distribution of  
notes in such a way as to give attention to  
appeal in time.

The same paper is sent to find out  
the reason for the delay in the  
distribution of the notes. The writer  
hopes that the same paper will be  
distributed in a way that will be  
of benefit to the people.

The writer hopes that the distribution of  
notes in such a way as to give attention to  
appeal in time.

The same paper is sent to find out  
the reason for the delay in the  
distribution of the notes. The writer  
hopes that the same paper will be  
distributed in a way that will be  
of benefit to the people.

The writer hopes that the distribution of  
notes in such a way as to give attention to  
appeal in time.

The same paper is sent to find out  
the reason for the delay in the  
distribution of the notes. The writer  
hopes that the same paper will be  
distributed in a way that will be  
of benefit to the people.

The writer hopes that the distribution of  
notes in such a way as to give attention to  
appeal in time.

The same paper is sent to find out  
the reason for the delay in the  
distribution of the notes. The writer  
hopes that the same paper will be  
distributed in a way that will be  
of benefit to the people.